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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/525,046

02/18/2005

Gianantonio Pozzato

BONNP97

5662

49691

7590

10/16/2009

IP STRATEGIES  
12 1/2 WALL STREET  
SUITE E  
ASHEVILLE, NC 28801

EXAMINER

COHEN, LEE S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3739

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

10/16/2009

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/525,046	<b>Applicant(s)</b> POZZATO, GIANANTONIO	
	<b>Examiner</b> Lee S. Cohen	<b>Art Unit</b> 3739	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 August 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4,5 and 7-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 4,5 and 7-14 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)          | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pozatto (6,458,122) in view of Farin et al (4,860,745).

Pozzato discloses a method of regulating the power available at an electrode carried by a manipulator of an electronic scalpel for cutting tissue and coagulating blood, said scalpel (42) having a rectifying circuit (20) for supplying a rectified and direct voltage; a radio frequency circuit (30) including a pilot circuit (306, Fig 2) having a wave signal input, said radio frequency circuit producing a current carrier signal at a main frequency (abstract lines 5-8), said method comprising the steps of: producing a modulating signal (at 10); combining the modulating signal and the current carrier signal (Fig 2) to produce a wave form having two or three harmonics resulting from the combination of said current carrier signal and of the modulating wave (harmonics are inherently produced), applying the wave form to the electrode of the manipulator (42); regulating the amplitude of said wave form in order to avoid destroying tissue (column 1 lines 49-54), including at least one of varying the amplitude of the wave signal applied to said pilot circuit and varying said rectified and direct voltage supplied to said radio frequency circuit (column 3 lines 36-56). The reference fails to disclose regulation of the amplitude producing harmonics to effect coagulation in the claimed temperature range.

Farin et al disclose a similar device and method in which amplitude regulation produces a wave form including harmonics to effect coagulation in the desired range. Applicant's attention is directed to Figure 4; column 4, line 57; column 8, lines 15-48; and column 15, line 53+. Given

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this teaching, it would have been obvious to the skilled artisan to modify Pozzato with such features to effect more efficient coagulation since a predictable result would ensue.

***Response to Amendment***

The previously indicated allowability of claim 1 is hereby withdrawn in light of the new rejection supra.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 4, 5, and 7-14 are allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lee S. Cohen whose telephone number is 571-272-4763. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7:00-3:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Linda Dvorak can be reached on 571-272-4764. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Lee S. Cohen  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3739

/Lee S. Cohen/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3739  
September 30, 2009